



CIRDAP - PIDF Collaborative Online International Training Programme on
Artificial Intelligence for Rural Development
Transforming Technology into Reality for Rural Welfare
18 to 20 August 2026



Pacific Islands
Development Forum



Empowering Communities | Enhancing Agriculture, Health, Education, Governance, and Programme Execution

INTRODUCTION

A strategic shift, from technical tool to development enabler.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping governance, economies, and public service delivery at an unprecedented scale. Beyond automation and analytics, the emergence of Generative AI, AI agents, edge computing, satellite intelligence, and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) ecosystems have expanded the role of AI from a technical tool to a strategic development enabler. Governments and institutions are increasingly using AI to optimise resource allocation, strengthen climate resilience, enhance welfare targeting, and improve citizen service delivery.

Nevertheless, despite these advances, rural regions where a substantial portion of the global population resides continue to face structural constraints, including geographic isolation, limited connectivity, fragmented data ecosystems, institutional capacity gaps, and uneven digital literacy. These realities demand context-sensitive, inclusive, and responsible AI strategies rather than urban-centric technology transfers.

AI presents a transformative opportunity to create resilient, inclusive, and sustainable rural economies. From precision agriculture and climate risk modelling to AI-assisted telemedicine, adaptive learning platforms, beneficiary targeting systems, and intelligent infrastructure planning, AI can help bridge development gaps while improving transparency, efficiency, and accountability. However, successful deployment requires more than technology it requires robust data governance, risk-based AI frameworks, participatory design approaches, institutional readiness, and clear pathways from planning to execution.

In this context, the three-day online executive training program on AI in Rural Development is designed to equip policymakers, administrators, development practitioners, academics, NGOs, and technology leaders with practical knowledge and implementation frameworks.

THE PROGRAMME INTEGRATES

01 Foundations of AI and global policy trends

03 Sector-specific applications in agriculture, climate, healthcare, education, and social protection

05 Responsible AI, ethical governance, and community engagement

02 Rural data ecosystems and predictive planning

04 Deployment architectures suited for low-connectivity environments

06 A capstone exercise translating strategy into actionable rural AI initiatives

Participants will engage with real-world case models, structured readiness assessments, and workflow integration strategies that bridge policy formulation with field-level execution. By the end of the program, participants will be equipped not only to understand AI's potential but to design, govern, and implement AI-enabled rural development interventions responsibly and sustainably.

OBJECTIVES

- To build a foundational understanding of Artificial Intelligence (AI), including predictive AI, Generative AI, AI agents, and edge AI, and their relevance to rural development ecosystems.
- To develop awareness of national and global AI governance frameworks, Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) ecosystems, and risk-based Responsible AI approaches applicable to rural contexts.
- To strengthen participants' understanding of rural data ecosystems, data governance, bias mitigation, and predictive analytics for evidence-based rural planning.
- To explore sector-specific AI applications in agriculture, climate resilience, healthcare, education, social protection, and rural governance, supported by real-world case models.
- To equip stakeholders with practical frameworks for translating AI-enabled planning into field-level execution, including workflow integration, deployment architectures (cloud, edge, offline-first), and institutional readiness assessment.
- To enhance capacity for designing, governing, and monitoring AI-driven rural development initiatives with transparency, accountability, and community participation.
- To promote participatory and inclusive AI design approaches that integrate policymakers, implementers, local institutions, and rural communities.
- To foster cross-sectoral collaboration, public-private-academic partnerships, and innovation ecosystems for sustainable rural AI transformation.
- To enable participants to conceptualize and present an actionable AI-enabled rural development initiative through a structured capstone project.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

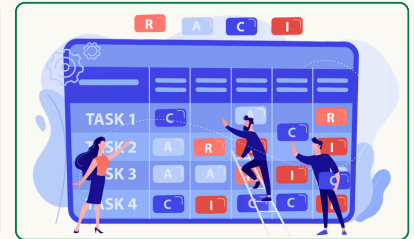
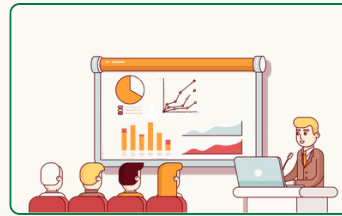
- **Policymakers & Government Officials** working on rural development strategies
- **Development Practitioners & NGOs** implementing grassroots initiatives
- **Academics & Researchers** exploring AI applications in rural contexts
- **Tech Innovators & Entrepreneurs** building AI-driven solutions for underserved communities

THEMES COVERED



METHODOLOGY

- Expert-led presentations
- Case study analysis and real-world examples
- Interactive Q&A and breakout discussions
- Actionable-outcome led templates



EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Gain a foundational understanding of AI and its relevance to rural development.
- Identify practical use case studies and policy frameworks for AI adoption in rural sectors.
- Develop actionable ideas for AI-integrated rural development projects.
- Build networks for collaboration across policy, academia, and technology sectors.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Mode

Online (via Zoom)

Duration

3 Days

Daily Schedule

2 sessions per day, 90 minutes each (Total: 3 hours/day)

PROGRAMME DIRECTORS



Dr Venkatamallu Thadaboina

Programme Officer—Learning, CIRDAP, Dhaka, Bangladesh



Dr Sushant Kumar Singh

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REGISTRATION DETAILS

- Fee: Free
- Deadline: 10th August 2026
- Registration Link/ QR Code: <https://forms.gle/dXyeLF5PZTKQxnoq8>



For queries or support, please contact **Dr Venkatamallu Thadaboina**, Programme Officer (Learning), CIRDAP, Dhaka, at **Email:** po_learning@cirdap.org or **Phone:** +91-9866681774 (WhatsApp).